

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination FormSee instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For NPS use only

received NOV 14 1984

date entered DEC 13 1984

1. Name

historic Bon Homme County Courthouse

and/or common Same

2. Location

street & number Walnut and Washington Streets

NA not for publication

city, town Tyndall NA vicinity of

state South Dakota code 46 county Bon Homme code 009

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	NA	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Bon Homme County (c/o County Auditor)

street & number Drawer E

city, town Tyndall NA vicinity of state South Dakota

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Registry of Deeds - Bon Homme County Courthouse

street & number 300 W. Cherry Street

city, town Tyndall state South Dakota

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Bon Homme County Survey has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☒ nodate June 1983 ☐ federal ☐ state ☒ county ☐ local

depository for survey records State Historical Preservation Center

city, town Vermillion state South Dakota

7. Description

Condition

☒ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Centrally located on a city block between Walnut and Washington Streets, the three-story Bon Homme County Courthouse in Tyndall exemplifies Beaux-Arts Classicism. Access into the building is via ground level (raised basement). A flat roof with brick chimney and central dome tops this large rectangular granite building. The main entranceway is distinguished by its parapet and recessed portico with Corinthian columns. The main doorway is crowned with moldings. Surrounding the unadorned entablature are dentils and modillion blocks beneath the cornice. Fenestration includes rectangular windows on all four facades one on each level, and doors on the north and south sides. There is also a small, one-story concrete block addition to the rear.

The impressive interior displays a circular stairwell covered by a stained glass dome. The floors and stairs are marble, and the walls are embellished with pilasters and dentils. Many of the lighting fixtures are brass. In addition, there are several murals that adorn the walls. A.E. Soderberg of Oyen Studios painted these murals.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
			A. Schwartz, Architect	
Specific dates	1914	Builder/Architect	A.M. Wold Company, general contractors	
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)	A.E. Soderberg, interior decoration (mural)			

The Bon Homme County Courthouse is significant in the areas of both architecture and government.

Designed by A. Schwartz, architect, and built in 1914 by A.M. Wold Co., general contractors, the courthouse is one of the finest examples of Beaux Arts Classicism in the state. This large rectangular building, distinguished by its recessed portico with Corinthian columns, has retained most of its original features. The interior is especially impressive: a circular stairwell covered with a stained glass dome dominates the space. Brass lighting fixtures, and marble floors and stairs also adorn the interior. There are several oil on canvas murals painted by A.E. Soderberg of Oyen Studios, LaCrosse, Wisconsin. Oyen Studios was also responsible for the interior decoration and murals of the Yankton (1905), Brown (1904), Deuel (1917), Moody (1914), Brookings (1912), and Lawrence (1905) County Courthouses and the Citizen's Bank (date?) of Aberdeen. Most of the designs in the Oyen Collection are by Soderberg, a Native Swede who did the ceiling decoration for the Swedish kings' summer palace in Uppsala before immigrating to this country.¹

The county of Bon Homme was established in 1862. In 1885, Tyndall was chosen to be the county seat and a new courthouse was constructed.² The present Bon Homme County Courthouse replaced the first building in 1914. For over seventy years the courthouse has played an important role as the center of county government.

¹ A Catalog of the Oyen Collection from the University of Wisconsin, LaCrosse. Joan M. Rausch with Dr. Leslie Crocker, Board of Regents, University of Wisconsin System, 1979, p. 52, 55.

² Dakota Territorial Heritage, Bon Homme County Book, 1961-1961.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property Three Acres

Quadrangle name Tyndall

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	4
---	---

5	9	2	4	7	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

4	7	6	0	5	4	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Zone Easting Northing

B

--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Zone Easting Northing

C

--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D

--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

E

--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

F

--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

G

--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

H

--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundary for the Bon Homme County Courthouse, Tyndall is: Block 32 - Currier's Addition 1st, Tyndall, South Dakota

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
NA			

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Professors James Stewart and Gerald Wolff (with the assistance of Melanie Betz)
Dept. of Social Behavior (Stewart)

organization Dept. of History (Wolff) date September 10, 1984

street & number University of South Dakota telephone 605/677-5401 (Stewart)
605/677-5218 (Wolff)

city or town Vermillion state South Dakota

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title State Historic Preservation Officer, and Director
of Office of Cultural Preservation

date 11/2/84

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.
Entered in the
National Register

date 12-13-84

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only

received

date entered

DEC 13 1984

Continuation sheet

Item number 9

Page 1

Major Bibliographical References

Bon Homme County Courthouse Records.

Dakota Territorial Heritage, Bon Homme County Book, 1861-1961.

A Catalog of the Oyen Collection from the University of Wisconsin, LaCrosse
Including a History of The Oyen Interior Design Firm Buildings Decorated by
the Oyen Firm Employees of the Oyen Firm. Joan M. Rausch with Dr. Leslie
Crocker, Board of Regents, University of Wisconsin System, 1979.